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**System and Method for Secure Network
State Management and Single Sign-On****ABSTRACT**

State management (cookie) data is encrypted so that
5 access control data included in the cookie is unable to be
modified by the user. A hashing algorithm is performed
using various fields in the cookie data and the hash value
is encrypted. The hash value is combined with other data
such as the user identifier and a time stamp and encrypted
10 to form a cookie value. When a request is received, the
cookie data is checked. If the token value is not in the
server's cache then the token is authenticated facilitating
movement of the client between servers. If the cookie does
not exist or is timed out, then the user is authenticated
15 using traditional means.